

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

**January 29, 2008**

**CONGRESS NEEDS TO PROTECT OUR COUNTRY AND PASS A PERMANENT FIX  
TO THE FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE SURVEILLANCE ACT**

**OPPOSE H.R. 5104 AND REJECT A 30-DAY EXTENSION**

Dear Colleague,

In August of last year, Congress passed the *Protect America Act* to close a dangerous loophole in our ability to collect intelligence information on foreign targets in foreign countries. The Protect America Act expires on February 1, threatening the capabilities of the intelligence community to react with speed and agility to new threats and changing circumstances.

Democrats had six months to pass a permanent fix to FISA. Unfortunately, House Democrats passed the RESTORE Act, which empowered judges and lawyers instead of the intelligence community, while Senate action has been paralyzed by liberal activists.

When it comes to protecting America from future attacks, Democrats have been unable—or unwilling—to act. This is just another example of the Majority's inability to lead responsibly.

Now, Congress has just *four days* to make sure our intelligence officials do not lose critical tools that they need in order to monitor terrorists overseas and disrupt plots against our nation.

Rather than pass a permanent fix, Democrats are now proposing to delay the deadline for another 30 days. The intelligence community needs a permanent fix to gaps in our intelligence laws – not a 30 day delay.

H.R. 5104 represents a failure to act, a failure to lead and a failure to protect our country. We are glad that President Bush has stated his intention to veto this bill. We hope the Majority will finally get the message – it must pass permanent legislation and it must do so now.

We urge you to oppose this legislation when it is considered by the House today under suspension of the rules.



Sincerely,

LAMAR SMITH  
Ranking Member  
House Judiciary Committee



PETE HOEKSTRA  
Ranking Member  
House Permanent Select  
Committee on Intelligence